AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims under consideration, whether or not amended, are presented below. Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (**Currently amended**) A method for potentiating morphogen activity, comprising administering to a mammal a composition, the composition comprising a molecule that overcomes morphogen inhibition, thereby potentiating morphogen activity.

2. (**Currently amended**) A method for promoting neuronal cell growth, comprising administering to a mammal a composition, the composition comprising a molecule that overcomes morphogen inhibition, ~~thereby~~ so as to potentiate growth-promoting effects of endogenous morphogens thereby promoting neuronal cell growth.

3. (**Currently amended**) A method for treating a disorder characterized by neuronal cell loss, comprising administering to a mammal a composition, the composition comprising a molecule that overcomes morphogen inhibition, ~~thereby~~ so as to potentiate growth-promoting effects of endogenous morphogens, thereby promoting growth of a neuronal cell and treating a disorder characterized by neuronal cell loss.

4. (**Currently amended**) A method for treating a neurodegenerative disorder, comprising administering to a mammal a composition, the composition comprising a molecule that overcomes morphogen inhibition, ~~thereby~~ so as to potentiate morphogen activity, thereby stimulating neuronal growth by morphogens, to treat ~~treating~~ a neurodegenerative disorder.

5. (**Previously presented**) The method of claim 1, wherein said morphogen activity is endogenous.

6. (**Previously presented**) The method of claim 1, wherein said morphogen activity is the result of an exogenously provided morphogen.

7. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 4, wherein said composition further comprises a morphogen.

8. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 3 or 4, wherein said disorder is Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, senile dementia, alcohol-induced dementia, or stroke.

9. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein said molecule that overcomes morphogen inhibition is a cytokine antagonist, a retinoid antagonist, or a protein kinase A inhibitor.

10. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 9, wherein ~~said~~ the molecule is a cytokine antagonist which is a neuropoetic cytokine antagonist.

11. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 10, wherein said neuropoetic cytokine antagonist is an LIF (Leukemia-Inhibitory Factor) antagonist or a CNTF (Ciliary Neurotrophic Factor) antagonist.

12. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 11, wherein said neuropoetic cytokine antagonist is a LIF (Leukemia-Inhibitory Factor) antagonist which is a monoclonal antibody to ~~the~~ a gp130 protein.

13 – 15 **(Cancelled)**

16. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 7, wherein said morphogen comprises an amino acid sequence selected from a sequence:

(a) having at least 70% homology with the C-terminal seven-cysteine skeleton of human OP-1 (Osteogenic Protein 1), residues 330-431 of SEQ ID NO: 2;
(b) having greater than 60% amino acid sequence identity with said C-terminal seven-cysteine skeleton of human OP-1;
(c) defined by Generic Sequence 7, SEQ ID NO: 4;
(d) defined by Generic Sequence 8, SEQ ID NO: 5;
(e) defined by Generic Sequence 9, SEQ ID NO: 6;
(f) defined by Generic Sequence 10, SEQ ID NO: 7; or

(g) defined by OPX, SEQ ID NO: 3.

17. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 7, wherein said morphogen is human OP-1 (Osteogenic Protein 1), mouse OP-1, human OP-2 (Osteogenic Protein 2), mouse OP-2, 60A, GDF-1 (Growth/Differentiation Factor-1), BMP2A (Bone Morphogenesis Protein 2A), BMP2B (Bone Morphogenesis Protein 2B), DPP (Decapentaplegic), Vgl, Vgr-1 (Vg1-related sequence), BMP3 (Bone Morphogenesis Protein 3), BMP5 (Bone Morphogenesis Protein 5), or BMP6 (Bone Morphogenesis Protein 6).

18. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 7, wherein said morphogen is OP-1.

19. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the molecule binds an endogenous ligand for a cytokine receptor or a retinoid receptor.

20 – 21. **(Cancelled)**

22. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 19, wherein ~~said~~ the molecule which binds an endogenous ligand for a retinoid receptor is a retinoic acid receptor.

23. **(Currently amended)** The method of claim 19, wherein ~~said~~ the molecule which binds an endogenous ligand for a retinoid receptor is a retinoid X receptor.

23. **(Cancelled)**

24. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 1, wherein the molecule is a cAMP-dependent messenger pathway inhibitor.

25. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 24, wherein said cAMP-dependent messenger pathway inhibitor comprises a protein kinase A inhibitor.

26. **(Previously presented)** The method of claim 25, wherein said protein kinase A inhibitor is (2-p- bromocynnamylaminoethyl)-5-isoquinolinesulfonamide, an enantiomer of dibutyryl cAMP, or an enantiomer of cAMP.

27 – 32. **(Cancelled)**